14/6

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Depot Town Rag

Volume 14, Number 6 *"All the news in one block in one month."*

100% FREE Rag content

June 1991

- **Frog Island facts**
- Eight pages this month!
- *Blimp hangar remembered*
- **Is 1859 map facetious?**
- Creative economic development

. . . and other strictly local stuff

A Publication of the DEPOT TOWN ASSOCIATION, INC. The Old Caboose, 400 Market Place, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Summer in the City

Since Depot Town's turn-around began, many of the regular clientele note that there's something going on all year 'round. Fall, winter and spring events carry the Victorian commercial theme into today's market with enough success that the shops are teeming with activity and the spacious apartments above them are filled with happy people. Still, all agree, summer is the best time of all.

For the past ten years the season has been heralded by blues and jazz notes emanating from Frog Island in June . . . and then it's a real-life revisit to the warmth of yesteryear in Ypsilanti. From big events to tiny ones, the old railroad district is a destination point for thousands of families.

The Memorial Day Parade really begins the season as it stops at the Cross Street Bridge; then it's a steady slide toward August's spectacular Ypsilanti Heritage Festival and the harvest season at the Farmers' Market. Meanwhile, folks shop and sip and sit at the sidewalk cafés in Depot Town.

The Farmers' Market on Wednesdays and Saturdays serving as bookends to each week when neighbors gather to follow the local news together. Recylcling Center joins the fun on Saturdays. Kids fish the Huron River and families picnic in the park. Some guy practices his cornet on Frog Island and a church choir rehearses at the amphitheatre. Engagement rings are bestowed on moonlight strolls to Riverside Park and there's always someone out there to wave at the train as it passes.

It's almost like someone planned for this kind of community to actually make life more pleasant. Welcome back to the way things used to be. Urban neighborhoods can still be loveable. Come on down -- and help weed the flower beds!

Color us GREEN for June

What's our color scheme? Not long ago Fire Engine Red was the color for Depot Town projects. Maybe it had something to do with the old caboose. Before that, Ypsilanti had adopted Pale Blue as its historic hue. And a few years prior to that, most of the backs of commercial buildings in Our Town were getting fresh coats of Sanitary White to add sparkle to the view from the expressway entries.

More recent color combinations have seen Heritage Fest signs painted on Buff Brown Backgrounds, apparently assuming that nothing old enough to be called Historical could possibly be Pure White.

Ribbon-hanging has certainly crested as a quick way to show your feelings in recent months. Red ribbons warned against drunk driving, yellow ribbons welcomed the soldiers home from the war, black ribbons mourned the dead, ad infinitum. The Depot Town Antique Engine Club chose blue ribbons for their awards this season (light blue for the Belleville show, darker blue for the August Heritage Fest) and no local group is more deserving of a Blue Ribbon than these local boosters. Somebody buy them a beer! (Blue Ribbon?)

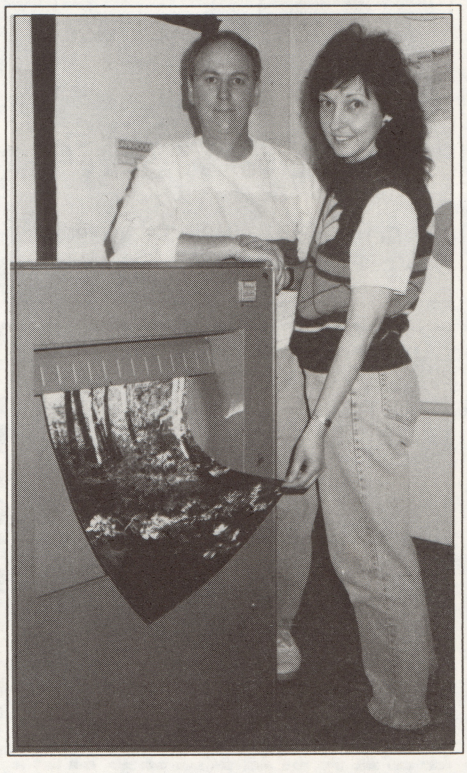
This month sees a Green Theme waving its way down the block from the River to the Railroad Track as the district heralds the beginning of the tenth decade of the Frog Island Festival on June 14, 15 and 16. Green, Jazz and Frog themes are slated to grace the ads, specials, windows, and other promotions of Ypsilanti's old railroad district this month. Perhaps today's mall promoters are equally 'green with envy' over the fact that such amenities are so easy to promote in charming old neighborhoods such as Depot Town.

Great exposure:

A most unusual development

Michael Leach and Toni McCarthy opened Image Photo Lab at 11 East Cross in Depot Town in 1989. They occupy part of the space that some will remember as the Anderson & Deck garage, more recently transformed into swank little shops alongside the Huron River. The water access is not an accident; the first building on that site was the Duebel Mill, a flour-grinding operation which was powered by the force of the river.

In the photo at right, Toni pulls a print from their giant print processor. Regular readers of *The Rag* may have noted higher quality photos in recent editions. The reason: Toni and Mike gave local saloon owner Bill French lots of technical advice and great printing techniques. Standard Printing takes it from there. What a neighborhood.



FOOD • FUN • ANTIQUES
24-hour Hot Line
Call:
482-YPSI
for information on historic Depot Town!

10% OFF your Drycleaning Order with this coupon - through May
at *Valley* Cleaners
Bell Arbor Shopping Center
2889 Carpenter Road 677-0580

Fingerle Hollister Wood
482-0735
Ypsilanti's Largest
LUMBER COMPANY
2800 East Michigan Ave.
THERE IS A MATERIAL DIFFERENCE

Blind Pig
208 S. FIRST ST.
ANN ARBOR, MI
SALOON

RENTAL•SALES•SERVICE
ACTION RENTAL
Gerri Lewis
Vice President
4051 Carpenter Rd.
(1 blk S. of Meijers)

15% OFF **all in-house printing**
with this coupon
- during June!
AMERICAN SPEEDY PRINTING CENTERS ™
170 E. Michigan Ave.
Ypsilanti, MI 48198
313-485-2840
313-485-1855

Unsolicited testimonial:

Tribute to Tom

- delivered at the April DTA meeting
by Bonni Rosen-Fine

Who's this guy they call Tom Dodd?
Acts like he's Almighty God;
Thinks his poopie doesn't stink;
Sometimes has too much to drink.
Always says the rudest stuff,
Being a little snide is never enough,
And if you don't like it — tough!
He's too busy to take your guff.
He has no class, just a modicum of style,
When you see him,
he'd like it if you said 'heil.'
Dodd's Ye Ed of our *Depot Town Rag*,
Neighborhood gossip, that's his bag.
He's got the latest poop on you.
He'll worry later if it's true.
Thinks he's a legend in his own mind,
But he's a curmedgeon,
and the grouchiest kind!

Who's this guy they call Tom Dodd?
You'll probably find this very odd,
But we wouldn't trade him
for all the tea in China,
Or all the grease you could find
at a roadside diner.
Oh, that Tom, he's such an S.O.B.,
But he's *our* S.O.B., don't you see?!
In all these years he's never let us down;
He's made the difference
here in Depot Town.
The jewel of Ypsilanti wouldn't be as good
If *The Rag* wasn't part of our neighborhood.
The Rag's a model of cheerful irreverence,
Never stooping to uncalled-for malevolence.
It's been Tom and his wit,
his skill as an editor,
Which have put to shame his
journalistic competitor.
We're grateful to you, Dodd,
for your part and more;
The newspaper you've founded
is Depot Town's core.
So, bless your heart, Tom,
now off I'll be toddlin',
As this poem is getting disgustingly maudlin.

Mr. Goo's Car Wash
Sun. $1 off wash
Mon. $2 off wash
Tues. $3 off wash
Wed. $2 off wash
Thurs. $1 off wash
Fri. $1 off wash
Sat. $1 off wash
317 E. MICHIGAN AVE.
Expires: June 15, 1991

Cookie Champ shares prize-winning recipe

Jody McVay receives a plaque honoring her first-place chocolate mint bars in the Farmers' Market Freighthouse last month.

Jody McVay's 1991 prize-winning recipe . . .

Chocolate Mint Bars

Group A: (cake)
1 C. sugar
1/2 C. butter or margarine
4 eggs
1 16 oz. can chocolate syrup
1/2 tsp. salt
1 tsp. vanilla
1 C. flour

Step 1: Preheat oven to 350. Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs (one at a time), chocolate syrup, salt, vanilla and flour (in that order). Pour onto a greased 15 1/2 X 10 1 1/2 X 1/2" pan (cookie sheet). Bake 20 -25 minutes. Cool.

Group B: (frosting)
3 C. powdered sugar
1/2 C. butter or margarine
3 tbsp. milk
1 - 2 tsp. peppermint flavoring
Dash green food coloring

Step 2: Beat all ingredients from group B to form a smooth frosting. Frost cooled cake and refrigerate for 20 minutes.

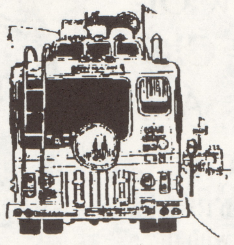
Group C: (topping)
1/2 C. butter or margarine
2 tbsp milk
1 - 12 oz. bag milk chocolate chips

Step 3: Melt butter with milk, remove from heat, add chocolate chips and stir until smooth. Pour over cooled cake (with frosting already added). Refrigerate for 10 minutes and then cut into bars. Refrigerate until firm.

Creative economic development:

Is there really a recession in 1991? A few years ago we thought so, too. The district laughed at the national economy then -- and some of us are still laughing. Following is a piece which was published in the November 1984 edition of *The Depot Town Rag*. Have we changed much?

A second (hand) view of things:



A quick look at some of the newer businesses in Our Town will show how we've been dealing with the depressed economy. The most recent business directory includes THE NEARLY NEW SHOP, SECOND HAND ROSES, ANTIQUE ALLEY, and a store called NOT SO BAD AFTER ALL.

Seems you can't buy anything new here, today. It's used clothes and used cars, used furniture and used books. Even some of the restaurants are specializing in left-overs. Three families have taken up permanent residence in the Salvation Army drop box.

One block of Depot Town has a row of shops which includes places called EVERYTHING NICE, EVERYTHING PRETTY GOOD, and another down-priced version named EVERYTHING NOT TOO NICE BUT O.K IF YOU'RE JUST STEPPING OUT OF THE HOUSE FOR A MINUTE. Across the street you'll find STUFF & SUCH, SUGAR & SPICE, and PUPPY DOGS' TAILS. That's what our commercial shopping district is made of.

We went to a party last week (in a recently rehabilitated historic house, of course) and I felt very much at-home when I realized that everybody there was wearing the clothes I had received for Christmas ten years ago. I had dropped them off at the NOW AND THEN RESALE SHOP which is between REMNANT CITY and UNCLAIMED GOODS AND BADS. Next week will see the grand openings of still more creative approaches at BESSIE'S BOUTIQUE AND HIGH FASHION USED CLOTHING EMPORIUM, YE OLDE HAND-ME-DOWN SHOPPE, and the OLDE-BUT-GOODE RECYCLED CYCLE SHOP. Many of these will be housed under the same roof at the CHEAPTOWN BARGAIN CITY DISCO-DISCOUNT CENTER out on the freeway.

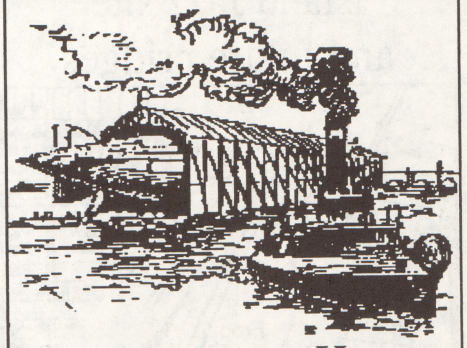
One of our favorite stores is VINTAGE PASSION, which is not the senior citizen massage parlor the name implies, but a jewel box of yesterday's personal decoration. Jewelry is always popular, even if it's used jewelry. If they're not selling it, they're buying it. We also stopped in at JUNQUE JEWELRY, the OLD GOLD BOOSTER BARN, and RHINESTONE VALLEY only to learn a quick lesson: All that glitters is not good. While perusing THE FAMILY JEWELS, I looked for a new second hand for my watch and all they had was second-hand watches.

The area's antique establishments have proven that the local historic district is, indeed, the attic of the Mid-West and that just about everybody is as interested as your grandfather was in what your grandma used to have. Today, the city's only department store, THE GIANT FLEA MARKET, is featuring a Hallmark used gift shop and they're calling it CRAP & WRAP.

Yes, times are tough. One family couldn't afford a new car this year, so, when they were applying for a loan at a local bank to pay their gas heating bill, they tacked on enough to purchase a new spare tire cover to hang on the rear of their all-terrain motor-home camper-wagon. It's personalized and says, "The Smiths: Art, Sarah, Amy, Fred, Art Junior, Melody, Amber, Poopsie and Tag." This is all superimposed over a scene of two wild geese flying over the twin towers of the First Presbyterian Church and done up in reflectorized metallic tape. Under crossed American Flags it says, "Ypsilanti -GARAGE SALE CITY - Love it or leave it!"

Edifice Complex:

Local History that Never Happened



The Old Blimp Hangar

A precursor to the Ann Arbor Transit Authority (AATA) downtown depot, the first water-borne blimp hangar provided surface-to-air traffic articulation for early Washtenaw County. This hangar floated in the Huron River midway between Michigan Avenue (then called Congress Street) and Cross Street (then called Progress Street). That's the *Ypsilanti Enquirer* printing press in the background just to the left of the giant Ypsilanti Underwear statue which was torn down by local Episcopalians in 1889.

After the Hindenberg Disaster, such use of former covered bridges was encouraged in many communities, due to the availability of water and shortage of fire departments.

Ypsilanti's hangar appeared at about the same time as Ford Lake, but was soon replaced by airport limosines with built-in crystal decanters, flower vases, and tiny color television sets in the back seat.

"Blimp," as nearly everyone knows, was an acronym for Be Loquacious In My Presence, an early grass roots movement to stamp out illiteracy. It failed.

River Street
ANTIQUES
306 N. River Street • 487-4580
Our specialty:
Decorating with antiques

It's happening in Ypsilanti's historic DepotTown:

Frog Island Jazz Fest
June 14, 15, 16

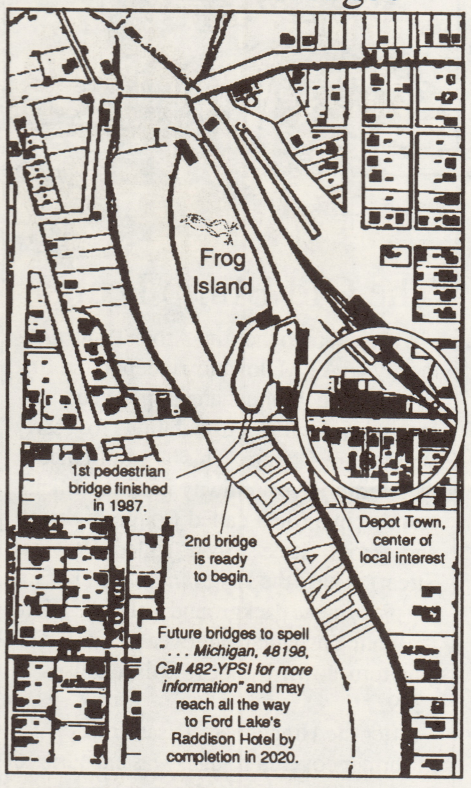
Ypsilanti Heritage Festival
Jitterbug Contest, Antique Bicycles, Early Engine Expo, Tractor Pull, Heritage Jazz Competition
August 16, 17, 18

Support the sponsors of your monthly *Depot Town Rag*

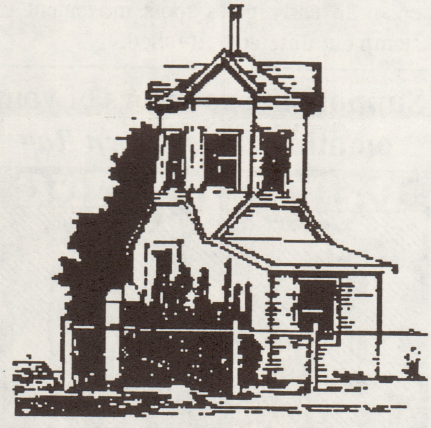
PARTICIPATING DEPOT TOWN MERCHANT

Look for this logo in their window.

1859 map shows island Jazz site and future bridges


Frog Island
YPSILANTI
1st pedestrian bridge finished in 1987.
2nd bridge is ready to begin.
Depot Town, center of local interest
Future bridges to spell "... Michigan, 48198, Call 482-YPSI for more information" and may reach all the way to Ford Lake's Raddison Hotel by completion in 2020.

NO
- Preservatives
- Business like show business
- Time like the present
- Salesman will call
- Nonsense pantyhose
- Money down
- Rest for the weary
- Body knows the trouble I've seen



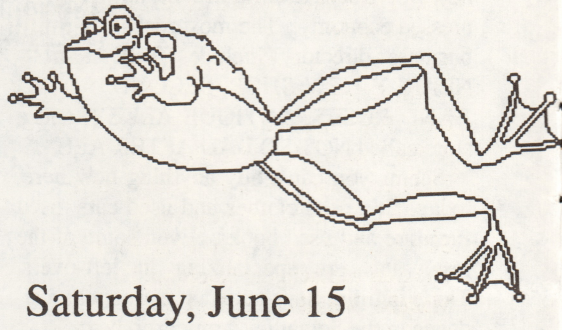
Depot Town's new project:

The old railroad district may look pretty spiffy these days, but there's still work to be done. Locals plan to replicate 19th Century Signal Tower at the neighborhood's primary intersection and lots of help is needed. Call 482-6371 to learn how you can help.

Musicians from Brazil, Nigeria, Haiti, New Orleans, New York City, Chicago, Detroit, Ann Arbor, and Ypsilanti. . .

will fill the big tent by the Huron River in Ypsilanti's historic Depot Town with three days of uncommonly colorful, diverse music.

Frog Isla



Friday, June 14

New Orleans Night

5pm: Percy Gabriel's New Orleans Jazz Band -
This New Orleanian counts 60 years of music making.

7pm: New Birth Brass Band -
An authentic New Orleans party band makes its midwestern debut.

8:30 pm: Terrence Siminen & the Mallet Playboys -
Spicy, rocking zydeco from a new master of the form.

10:30 pm: Buckwheat Zydeco -
The crowned king of zydeco has it all: Accoridon, rubboard, sweet New Orleans horns.

24-hour Frog Island Live HOT LINE: 487-2229

The Frog Island Festival is a project of The Ark, in association with Eastern Michigan University's public radio station WEMU and The Depot Town Association. The Festival is made possible in part by a grant from The Wilkinson Foundation.

Saturday, June 15

Noon: The Bird of Paradise Orchestra -
A bopping big band that keeps Mondays hot at Ann Arbor's jazz club.

1:30 pm: The Rodney Whittaker Oct/Semble -
An exuberant, roaring band of the Motor City's finest young lions.

3 pm: Straight Ahead -
Detroit's magnificent jazz women took the Montreux International Festival by storm.

4:30 pm: Kenny Garrett Quartet -
The homecoming debut for Miles Davis' saxophonist, with Mulgrew Miller, Tony Reedus and Charnett Moffett. A Frog Island Exclusive!

6:30 pm : Showcase/Motor City Boogie Queens -
A Motown blues revue starring Zoom, Thornetta Davis and Juanita McCray, backed by an all star band.

8:15 pm: Chicago Blues Special -
Steve Freund's Chicago band hosts Pinetop Perkins, Jimmy Johnson and Byther Smith.

10:30 pm: Albert King -
A deep influence on two generations of guitarists, Albert remains a bluespower classic.

Frog, green & jazz specials offered this month:

River Street Antiques - Your green lay-away deposit will give you a 30% discount!
Miller's Ice Cream - The Frog Island Sundae
Crazy Barb's Paperback Book Exchange - Buy 1 used book, get one free (with this ad)!
Depot Exchange Antiques - Free green balloons! No strings attached Saturday only.
Ypsi Food Co-op - Hop on over to our pad for a cup of Frog Punch! (Natural & refreshing)
Bell, Book & Candle - Wear green, get 10% off any purchase.
Sidetrack - Jazz Drink Special = $2.
J&R Trading Post - All frogs on sale at 10% off until June 17.
Teachers Shop - 25% off all green-stickered merchandise.

nd 1991

Sunday, June 16

Noon: The Eastern Michigan University Gospel Choir -
Singing in Ypsilanti and around North America for 18 years.

1 pm: Jay Caldwell & the Gospel Ambassadors -
The fiery quartet was an unforgettable highlight of the 1990 Festival.

2:30 pm: The Sun Sounds Orchestra -
The Sun Messengers celebrate Fela, Makeba, Masakela and other great Africans.

4 pm: Hermeto Pascoal -
The Brazilian visionary's septet mixes jazz-fired genius with native root music.

6 pm: Boukman Eksperyans -
Eleven Haitian musicians, dancers and singers make joyful music with a message.

8 pm: Chief Commander Ebenezer Obey
Talking drums, choral melodies, electric guitars, a tremendous beat from 15 Nigerian juju masters.

Tickets are available

at all Ticketmaster locations or by phone at 645-6666 or 765-TKTS. Also at the following locations:

Ann Arbor: Schoolkids Records, P.J.'s Used Records, Little Professor Bookstore.

Ypsilanti: Aubree's Saloon, River Artworks, Puffer Red's, Huckleberry Party Store, WEMU.

Detroit: Sam's Jam, Dearborn Music, Tropical Hut.

Mail Order: Check or money order with SASE to The Ark/Frog Island, 637-1/2 South Main, Ann Arbor, 48104.

Prices: (Advance/Gate)
Friday $10/$13;
Saturday or Sunday $12.50/$15;

What do you get if you lay all the best jazz and blues musicians in the country end-to-end?

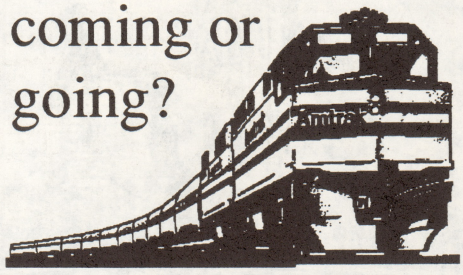
Frog Island!

WCC Jazz Ensemble, Misbehavin', Alberta Adams Blues Band, Marcus Belgrave Octet, Lyman Woodard Organization, Sun Messengers *, Stan Booker Quintet, Motor City Blues Review w/ Little Sonny, Juanita Mc Cray * & Chigaco Pete, Pepper Adams w/ Gary Schunk Trio, Norma Jean Bell Band, Son Seals Band w/ the Chicago Fire Horns, J.C. Heard Orchestra, Motor City Jazz All Stars, Tom Saunders' Surfside Six, Larry Nozero Quartet, Max Morden Quartet, Patti Richards w/ Eddie Russ Ltd., Trinidad/Tripoli Steel Band, Gerri Allen Octet, Sun Messengers * w/ Russell Green, Jimmy Rogers Blues Review, Chicago Blues Review w/ Valerie Wellington, Sugar Blues & A.C. Reed, Lonnie Brooks Band. Air Trio, Mr. B, J.C. Heard's All Stars, Christopher James EMX, Albert King *, George Adams and Don Pullen Quartet, Motor City Jazz Quintet, Ursula Walker/Buddy Budson, Wayne Toupes & Zydecajun, Vibration Society, New Breed Bebop Society w/ Kirk Lightsey and Marcus Belgrave, AC.Reed and the Spark Plugs, Hot Club, Queen Ida's Bon Temps Zydeco Band, Wayne Toups & Zydecajun, Kusuku Mafia's Success Jazz Academy, Straight Ahead, Vincent York's New York Force, Blue Turbulence, Geri Allen/Charlie Haden/ Paul Motian Trio, Marcia Ball, Junior Wells, Percy Galbriel's New Orleans Jazz Band *, Johnny Adams & the Sun Messengers, Nathan and the Zydeco Cha Chas, Wayne Toups & Zydecajun, Tasilimah's Ragtime Band, Phil Lasley's Fire, David 'Fathead' Newman, Marcus Belgrave & The New Breed Bebop Society, Frank Morgan Quartet, A.C. Reed, Jimmy Dawkins, Phil Guy, Professor's Blues Revue, Second Ebenezer Baptist Youth Chorale, Jay Caldwell & The Gospel Ambassadors*, Francisco Mora's New World Jazz Ensemble, Mahlathini and the Mahotella Queens, Sun Ra & The Arkestra.

* denotes returning for the 1991 Frog Island Festival

Jazz fans will want to know:

Is Amtrak coming or going?



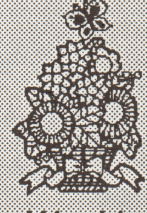
Is that train leaving the depot or is it just coming into Ypsilanti's railroad district? It's hard to tell -- when you're standing at the crossing in Depot Town, getting ready to wave at the engineeers. (Forget about waving at the caboose; you're three years too late for that! Besides, it's *Conrail* with the caboose-less freight trains and *Amtrak* with the passenger liners.)

The biggest railroad concern on this stretch of the main line is: Which way is that passenger train going; to Detroit or Chicago? Has the government-run rail line removed so much track that there is no longer adequate space to turn the engine around in either city? Or is urban life so violent in those metropoli that the train crew wants to get out of town in the fastest manner possible?

For the last year, Amtrak has made it a practice to operate one way of its run down the old Michigan Central tracks from a rear-controlled car, with the powerful locomotive pushing the consist of three-to-seven passengers cars. The largest line-ups seen this year have included four coaches, a diner, and sometimes a baggage car. An occasional run will include some of Amtrak's special-run observation cars or a car being transported for a private owner.

Say Café
at
JUDY'S 1st Class Fare

Gourmet Coffees



Fresh Posies

Weekly specials
Saturdays in the Freighthouse

A Commemorative Pin

...has been created for the *10th Frog Island Festival* and will be available from participating Depot Town shops at $5.25 each while they last.

Stick it in *The Rag*
for only $10 month.
You can't get any more local than this!
Send your copy to The Old Caboose by the 3rd Thursday and you'll see your ad here the following month.
Many payment plans. Trust us.
The Depot Town Rag:
All the news in one block in one month

The Michigan Central depot at Ypsilanti - - before the fires, train wrecks, vandals, and government grants.

"She'll be comin' from Ann Arbor when she comes..."

In the June *Rag*

for that month between the Frog Island Festival and the Heritage Jazz Competition:

Everybody Sing!

A celebration of Ypsilanti's music.

New York, Chicago and San Francisco have their songs - - and so do we! Where can you find so melodious a name to start with? If you haven't any songs to contribute, write one!

Send the words to your favorite song about Ypsilanti to: "The Old Caboose mail slot" by the third Thursday and you'll see it published here next month. -ed.

YPSILANTI RECYCLING PROJECT

Read *The Rag*, pass it around, then recycle it!

Trade a paperback for one of Barb's for only 70c plus tax! Crazy!

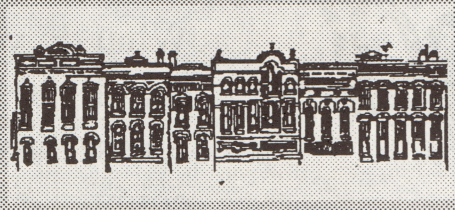
Crazy Barb's

Paperback Book Exchange!

Mon-Sat 11am-6pm

50 East Cross **484-4564**

D.T.A. President's message:



Remember the story about The Little Engine That Could ("I think I can, I think I can . . . ") I've lost my book, so don't quote me, but I seem to remember his doubts about getting over the mountain with his load of toys. But, as he started his climb, something happened. As he chugged along he gained more confidence and, as he gained more confidence, he got further down the track. You got it. He made it up the mountain with his toys.

The Depot Town Association is lucky; we don't have a mountain to go over. All we have to do is climb little bitty hills. The 'old timers' in Depot Town — and you know who you are — you climbed that mountain. Now, it's time to get aboard for the fun part of the ride.

The train is packed with projects and ready to go; projects that were once on the drawing board are starting to happen. Projects such as the Signal Tower, business sings, and landscaping are scheduled for completion by July 15, 1991.

These projects fit in to our 'plan.' It seems everyone has a plan and we have ours:

The Depot Town Five-Year Business Plan

Purpose: To develop Depot Town as 'the unique business district in Washtenaw County.'

Objective: To increase foot traffic by 100%

Strategy: Aggressively market Depot Town as a unique commercial district; within two blocks, a shopper can experience the Victorian buildings, Huron River, Riverside Park, Frog Island Park, the Freighthouse, railroad tracks, and the specialty shops of Depot Town.

Executive analysis: The Depot Town Five-Year Business Plan is an ambitious effort by the Merchants, Property Owners, and the Depot Town Association that can be achieved on schedule, with the cooperation of the Public and Private sectors.

The stated purpose of becoming 'the unique business district in Washtenaw County' can be a reality because of the size of the business district. A few well planned changes can have a large impact on the area.

These changes should include but are not limited to:

- A Merchant/Property Owner relationship that is based on cooperation and mutual respect for each other's interest in our stated objective.
- Improvement of the merchant store front facades.
- The implementation of a 'planned commercial mix.'
- Constant reevaluation of the 'product' by the merchants.
- Commitment by the City of Ypsilanti to our plan.
- Develop a 'maintenance program' to keep our district clean and attractive to the shopper.
- Develop an aggressive marketing plan.
- Develop an effective fund raiser.
- Management that encourages participation by all and that recognizes new leadership talent in the district.
- The Depot Town Association should be the 'ship,' with the Merchants on one 'oar' and the Property Owners on the other 'oar' - the speed and direction decided by the majority of the membership.

Confidence in our ability to effect change and stay focused on our Five Year Business Plan will get us over any little hill.

- Bill French, your pres

MEAT MARKET - VINEGAR PLANT-CIDERMILL-FARM MARKET

Wiard's ORCHARDS, INC.

Pick your own Asparagus & Bedding Plants available now

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Historic Depot Town
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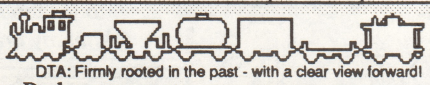
Letterhead
Business Cards
Forms

Brochures
Flyers
Weddings

Depot Town Association, Inc., 16 May 1991



DTA: Firmly rooted in the past - with a clear view forward!

Guest: Sherry Perkins, our Parks representative, discussed interactin between the parks, the City and organizations like ours. Would like all request or comments in writing. Prioritize you "park fantasises" as if money were no obect at all. Meetings are the second Wednesday of each month at City Hall.

Abstentees: Vice president Fetters chaired in place of absent president French. Treasurer Richie took notes for absent secretary Dodd.

Treasury: Current balance is $2880.05.

All bills should be sent to The Old Caboose. Bills are being sent all over the neighborhood and by the time they get to the treasurer it's second notice.

Memorial and Seed funds money was shifted to the General Fund.

April minutes were accepted as published.

Frog Island Festival: Carolyn brought samples of the new brochure, insurance is in place, program layout was reviewed. DTA stands to make some money on this, but more small $60 ads need to be sold. More ads are from Ypsilanti in contrast to Ann Arbor last year. Parking plans are still being negotiated.

Heritage Festival plans are underway with a $14-15,000 budget.

Judy Chicago "Birthing Project" installation will cost $500 for any type of display, plus insurance and shipping. One month minimum. Not a day show. Carolyn doesn't think we will be able to do it. Still investigating places for the exhibit to be installed. Quilts and trains all three days of Heritage Fest with a rest stop between displays.

Gus Macker dance on Cross Street Bridge was cancelled due to change of venue.

New or renewing DTA members:

Freeman & Bunting
Insurance Agency
David Davis
Jerry & Lynn Fouchey

Rag Sponsors: New copy for sales, specials, and discounts is encouraged by the 1st of each month c/o The Old Caboose.

Depot Town Association officers and committee chairs:

President	A. William French	- 483-1870
Vice president	Paul Fetters	- 482-8785
Secretary/editor	Tom Dodd	- 482-6371
Treasurer	Sally Richie	- 484-1510
Membership	Bonni Rosen-Fine	- 482-3463
Events	Carolyn McKeever	- 483-4256
Rag sponsorships	Rex Richie	- 484-1510
Freightouse events	Margaret Harner	-482-6373
Heritage Festival	Steve Gross	-482-1780
Information	Hot Line	-482-YPSI

Hot Rods! The Ypsi Street Rods Show was a big success! Would like to bring show to Riverside/Frog Island Parks next May 2 & 3, 1992. Jan Marble will give us their needs and we will be a support group to help make it happen.

Communications: Full Circle bid for beautifucation, two people, twor horus a day each, eleven weeks. Tabled after much discussion.

Signal Tower: Signage vs. Original? Signage drawing supported. Thanks to Tim Heiss from fingerle Hollister Wood Lumber Company for drawing the plans.

Caboose: Carpenter ants! Gary will pursue exterminating.

Cookie Booklet - 24 pages like a probram. Bonni will proof read 18 pages.

Standard Printing has given a good price. Ed Fine will do the cover design. Percentage goes to feed the hungry. Bonni can sell 350, needs $460 seed money, wants them done for Festival. Sponsors? Money approved.

Fencing: Steve Gross has suggested a wrought iron fence around the Farmers' Market flower bed. Cost and installation would be $1185.

Adjourned: Big Storm came up. No Awards this month. Everybody ran home to close their windows

Rewards for volunteering

[UofM United Way *Campaign News*, May]

"A 1988 study by the University of Michigan Survey Research Center found that regular volunteer work, more than any other activity, dramatically increases life expectancy. This was discovered through a survey which followed 2,700 people in Tecumseh, Michigan over a 10-year period to determine the impact of social relationships on health. Voluntarism came out on top!

Research at Yale, the University of California and Ohio State supports these findings. Those who give of their time doing for others . . . do get."

See what all that digging and painting and washing and planting got you in last month's neighborhood clean-up campaign? You not only added to the life of the district, but to your own.

Of course, there's always the chance that eight hours voluntarism only adds eight hours to your life span, but then, the district looks the better for it. At least for those eight hours.

We've often wondered at the pain on the faces of those joggers along the highway. Is it really worth all those hours of discomfort? Maybe they just add the running time to their life span. There's a better pay-off in painting and planting. It's not permanent, but it's going to look better after you're gone. -ed.

June 1991

Depot Towners are invited to participate in any or all of the following activities for the good of this old commercial district:

Depot Town Association
7:30 p.m. Thursday, 20
The Old Caboose

Depot Town
Antique Engine Club
7:00 p.m. Thursday, 27
Freighthouse Coffeeshop

You can rent
The Old Caboose

($25 + $10 refundable deposit)
Call 483-4256.

THE DEPOT TOWN RAG

A publication of the Depot Town Association, Inc. a nonprofit, tax-exempt corporation dedicated to preserving the unique character of the neighborhood and to the enhancement of its business climate.

-Tom Dodd, editor

The Depot Town Association, Inc.
A. William French, president
c/o The Old Caboose
400 Market Place
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198

Active Memberships :
• Ypsilanti Chamber of Commerce

The Depot Town Association

is a nonprofit, tax exempt corporation dedicated to preserving the unique character and history of the Depot Town area and to ensuring the economic growth and stablity of the area.

Cut out and mail your dues to:
DTA, 400 Market Place,
Ypsilanti, MI, 48198.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State_____ ZIP_____

❑ Associate member $10.
❑ Business/Property member $25.
❑ Sustaining member $100.
❑ Please mail *The Rag* or ❑ I'll pick it up.

PROFESSIONAL
CUSTOM
FRAMERS
482-8785

RIVER ARTWORKS

√ QUALITY
√ TIMELY SERVICE

WE DO ART . . .
. . . TO ART

48 East Cross Street
in Historic Depot Town

A Depot Town SAMPLER

Company's comin'

Visitors and Convention Bureau minions are probably already beginning to estimate how many million people will descend on the district two months from now. Steve Gross, of Depot Exchange Antiques, is the district's representative on the policy committee.

Give him your thoughts - real soon - on what kind of events should take place on our block. Where should the booths go? What is the best traffic pattern to get folks to discover our fascinating shops? What is the most effective way to introduce our unique block through advertising, printing and other promotions?

What worked well in the last twelve years? What could be improved? What should we add? Subtract? Change?

And, most of all: what do YOU want to do? There's always room for more involvement.

This coupon entitles bearer
to tell the shopkeeper 1 (one)
"What my grandmother had" story.

Depot Exchange Antiques
54 E. Cross • 482-1780

A mini-mall of unique shops

J&R Trading Post
483-5870
21 East Cross

Front end alignment
& Collision repair
CITY BODY
20 East Cross Street

Miller's Since 1901
ICE CREAM
Ice Cream Parlor and Emporium
42 East Cross
485-7546

Back again and as good as ever
- with new owners and the same old great Miller's Ice Cream, ice cream cakes and pies
-- and a whole lot more.

Hon's
Flowers & Fancies
46 East Cross
482-2124

Ike's Depot
BARBERSHOP
40 East Cross

YPSI. FOOD CO-OP
Saturday, June 8
Camping ideas and quick foods!
Friday, Sat. & Sunday
June 14, 15 & 16
Hop on over to our pad for a cup of *Frog Punch!*
(All natural & refreshing)
Sun. 12-5, M,T,Th, F 10-7 Wed. 10-9 Sat. 9-7
312 N. RIVER ST. 483-1520

T E D'S
Auto Electric
307 North River • 483-1238

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& LEARNING CENTER, LTD.
Your K12 CONNECTION
All materials for Classrooms & Curricula
(313) 482-6373
16 E. Cross Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

In Depot Town
2nd floor commercial space available - 482-6371

BELL, BOOK & CANDLE
44 E. Cross • 487-1970

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13 E. Cross Street
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Michael Leach Toni McCarthy
11 East Cross 482-3370

Proper attire required
Stick's
POOL IS COOL!
9' Championship pool tables
Located above Aubree's Saloon

Residential:

No apartments are available in the district this month, but the neighborhood clearing house for future listings of available commerical and residential units will add the names of interested parties to the waiting list. Watch for new properties in the fall or call 482-6371 for information on up-coming listings.